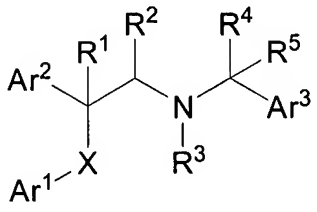
IN THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (currently amended) A compound of structural formula I:



(I)

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein:

R^1 is ~~selected from:~~

(1) hydrogen~~,~~

~~(2) C_{1-4}alkyl, unsubstituted or substituted with 1, 2 or 3 R^e substituents,~~

~~(3) halogen, and~~

(4) ~~OR^d~~;

R^2 is -CH_3, ~~selected from:~~

~~(1) hydrogen,~~

~~(2) C_{1-4}alkyl, and~~

~~(3) aryl,~~

wherein each ~~alkyl and aryl moiety~~ -CH_3 is unsubstituted or substituted with 1, 2 or 3 R^e substituents;

R^3 is ~~selected from:~~

~~(1)~~ hydrogen~~, and~~

(2) ~~C_{1-4}alkyl, unsubstituted or substituted with 1, 2 or 3 R^e substituents~~;

R^4 is selected from:

(1) hydrogen,

(2) C_{1-10}alkyl,

(3) C_{2-10}alkenyl,

(4) C_{2-10}alkynyl,

(5) C_{1-10}alkyloxycarbonyl-, ~~and~~

(6) C_{3-10}cycloalkyl,

(7) aryl-C_{1-6}alkyl-, and

(8) heteroaryl-C_{1-6}alkyl-,

wherein each alkyl, alkenyl, and alkynyl moiety is unsubstituted or substituted with one to four substituents independently selected from R^a and each aryl, heteroaryl, and

cycloalkyl moeity is unsubstituted or substituted with one, two or three substituents independently selected from R^b and oxo;

R^5 is ~~selected from:~~

~~(1)~~ hydrogen~~, and~~

(2) ~~C_{1-4}alkyl, unsubstituted or substituted with 1, 2 or 3 R^e substituents~~;

Ar^1 is phenyl, ~~selected from:~~

~~(1) C_{1-10}alkyl,~~

~~(2) C_{2-10}alkenyl,~~

~~(3) C_{2-10}alkynyl,~~

~~(4) C_{3-10}cycloalkyl,~~

~~(5) cycloheteroalkyl,~~

~~(6) aryl, and~~

(7) ~~heteroaryl,~~

wherein each ~~alkyl, alkenyl, and alkynyl moiety is unsubstituted or substituted with one to three substituents independently selected from R^a;~~

~~each aryl and heteroaryl moiety~~ phenyl is unsubstituted or substituted with one to four substituents independently selected from R^b; ~~and~~

~~each cycloalkyl and cycloheteroalkyl moiety is unsubstituted or substituted with one to four substituents independently selected from R^b and oxo;~~

Ar^2 is phenyl, ~~selected from:~~

~~(1) OR^d,~~

~~(2) CO_2R^d,~~

~~(3) C_{3-10}cycloalkyl,~~

~~(4) cycloheteroalkyl,~~

~~(5) aryl, and~~

~~(6) heteroaryl,~~

wherein each ~~cycloalkyl, cycloheteroalkyl moiety is unsubstituted or substituted with one to four substituents independently selected from R^b and oxo; and each aryl and heteroaryl moiety~~ phenyl is unsubstituted or substituted with one to four substituents independently selected from R^b;

Ar^3 is phenyl, ~~selected from:~~

~~(1) cycloalkyl,~~

~~(2) aryl, and~~

~~(3) heteroaryl,~~

wherein each ~~cycloalkyl, aryl and heteroaryl moiety~~ phenyl is unsubstituted or substituted with one to four substituents independently selected from R^b;

X is -CH_2-; ~~selected from:~~

~~(1) a bond,~~
~~(2) C_{1-4}alkyl,~~
~~(3) oxygen,~~
~~(4) sulfur, and~~
~~(5) NR^e,~~
~~provided that when X is oxygen, sulfur, or NR^e, then R^1 is hydrogen or C_{1-4}alkyl and Ar^2 is not OR^d;~~

each R^a is independently selected from:

(1) $-OR^d$,
(2) $-NR^cS(O)_mR^d$,
(3) halogen,
(4) $-SR^d$,
(5) $-S(O)_mR^d$,
(6) $-S(O)_mNR^cR^d$,
(7) $-NR^cR^d$,
(8) $-C(O)R^d$,
(9) $-CO_2R^d$,
(10) -CN,
(11) $-C(O)NR^cR^d$,
(12) $-NR^cC(O)R^d$,
(13) $-NR^cC(O)OR^d$,
(14) $-NR^cC(O)NR^cR^d$,
(15) $-CF_3$,
(16) $-OCF_3$, and
(17) cycloheteroalkyl;

each R^b is independently selected from:

(1) R^a,
(2) C_{1-10}alkyl,
(3) aryl,
(4) arylC_{1-4}alkyl,
(5) heteroaryl, and
(6) heteroarylC_{1-4}alkyl,

wherein aryl and heteroaryl moieties are unsubstituted or substituted with one, two or three substituents independently selected from R^f;

R^c and R^d are independently selected from:

(1) hydrogen,
(2) C_{1-10}alkyl,

(3) C_{2-10} alkenyl,

(4) cycloalkyl,

(5) cycloalkyl-C_{1-10}alkyl-,

(6) cycloheteroalkyl,

(7) cycloheteroalkyl-C_{1-10} alkyl-,

(8) aryl,

(9) heteroaryl,

(10) aryl-C_{1-10}alkyl-, and

(11) heteroaryl-C_{1-10}alkyl-, or

R^c and R^d together with the atom(s) to which they are attached form a heterocyclic ring of 4 to 7 members containing 0-2 additional heteroatoms independently selected from oxygen, sulfur and N-Rg,

each R^c and R^d are unsubstituted or substituted with one to three substituents selected from R^h;

R^e is selected from:

(1) hydroxy,

(2) methoxy-,

(3) trifluoromethoxy-,

(4) methylcarbonyloxy-,

(5) halogen, and

(6) cyano;

R^f is selected from:

(1) halogen,

(2) methyl,

(3) cyano, and

(4) amino;

each Rg is independently selected from

(1) C_{1-10}alkyl, and

(2) -C(O)R^i;

each R^h is independently selected from:

(1) halogen,

(2) C_{1-10}alkyl,

(3) -O-C_{1-4}alkyl,

(4) -S-C_{1-4}alkyl,

(5) -CN,

(6) -NO_2,

(7) -CF_3, and

(8) $-OCF_3$;

each R^i is independently selected from:

(1) hydrogen,
(2) C_{1-10}alkyl,
(3) C_{2-10} alkenyl,
(4) cycloalkyl,
(5) cycloalkyl-C_{1-10}alkyl-,
(6) cycloheteroalkyl,
(7) cycloheteroalkyl-C_{1-10} alkyl-,
(8) aryl,
(9) heteroaryl,
(10) aryl-C_{1-10}alkyl-, and
(11) heteroaryl-C_{1-10}alkyl-; and

m is selected from 1 and 2.

2. (currently amended) The compound according to Claim 1, wherein:

X is ~~selected from:~~

~~(1) a bond,~~
~~(2)~~ $-CH_2-$[[,]]
~~(3) oxygen, and~~
~~(4) sulfur,~~
~~provided that when X is oxygen, or sulfur, then R^1 is hydrogen or C_{1-4}alkyl, and Ar^2 is not $-OR^d$;~~

each R^a is independently selected from:

(1) $-OR^d$,
(2) $-NHS(O)_2R^d$,
(3) halogen,
(4) $-SR^d$,
(5) $-S(O)_2R^d$
(6) $-S(O)_2NR^cR^d$,
(7) $-NR^cR^d$,
(8) $-C(O)R^d$,
(9) $-CO_2R^d$,
(10) -CN,
(11) $-C(O)NR^cR^d$,
(12) $-NHC(O)R^d$,
(13) $-NHC(O)OR^d$,

(14) -NHC(O)NR^{c}R^d,
(15) -CF_3, and
(16) -OCF_3;

each R^b is independently selected from:

(1) R^a,
(2) C_{1-3}alkyl,
(3) phenyl, and
(4) heteroaryl,

wherein aryl and heteroaryl moieties are unsubstituted or substituted with one or two substituents independently selected from R^f;

each R^c is selected from hydrogen and methyl, and each R^d is selected from:

(1) hydrogen,
(2) C_{1-6}alkyl,
(3) cycloalkyl,
(4) cycloalkyl-C_{1-3}alkyl-,
(5) cycloheteroalkyl,
(6) cycloheteroalkyl-C_{1-3} alkyl-,
(7) phenyl,
(8) pyridyl,
(9) triazolyl,
(10) pyrazolyl
(11) phenyl-C_{1-3}alkyl-,
(12) pyridyl-C_{1-3}alkyl-,
(13) triazolyl-C_{1-3}alkyl-, and
(14) pyrazolyl-C_{1-3}alkyl-,

wherein each R^c and R^d may be unsubstituted or substituted with one to three substituents selected from R^h;

and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

Claim 3 (cancelled)

4. (currently amended) The compound according to Claim 1 ~~3~~, wherein:

R^4 is selected from:

(1) C_{1-6}alkyl,
(2) C_{1-5}alkyloxycarbonyl-, and
(3) C_{3-6}cycloalkyl,
(4) aryl-C_{1-3}alkyl-, and

(5) heteroaryl-C_{1-3}alkyl-,

wherein each alkyl moiety is unsubstituted or substituted with one to two substituents independently selected from R^a and each aryl, heteroaryl and cycloalkyl moeity is unsubstituted or substituted with a hydroxy or oxo substituent;

~~Ar^1 is selected from:~~

~~(1) C_{1-10}alkyl,~~

~~(2) C_{3-10}cycloalkyl,~~

~~(3) cycloheteroalkyl,~~

~~(4) phenyl, and~~

~~(5) heteroaryl,~~

~~wherein each alkyl moiety is unsubstituted or substituted with one to three substituents independently selected from R^a,~~

~~each aryl and heteroaryl moiety is unsubstituted or substituted with one to four substituents independently selected from R^b, and~~

~~each cycloalkyl and cycloheteroalkyl moiety is unsubstituted or substituted with one to four substituents independently selected from R^b and oxo;~~

~~Ar^2 is selected from: aryl and heteroaryl, wherein aryl and heteroaryl are optionally substituted with one to four substituents independently selected from R^b;~~

~~and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof~~.

5. (currently amended) The compound according to Claim 4, wherein: Ar^3 is ~~cyclohexyl or~~ phenyl, unsubstituted or substituted with one or two substituents selected from halogen, cyano, $-CH_3$, $-OCH_3$, $-CF_3$, $-OCF_3$, $-CO_2CH_3$, $-SCH_3$, $-S(O)CH_3$, $-S(O)_2CH_3$, $-C(O)N(CH_3)_2$, phenyl, pyridinyl, pyrimidinyl, pyrazolyl, pyrrolyl, triazolyl, $-NH-R^d$ wherein phenyl and heteroaryl moieties are unsubstituted or substituted with a substituent selected from halogen, methyl, cyano and amino,
and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

6. (original) The compound according to Claim 5, wherein: R^2 is methyl, X is $-CH_2-$, Ar^1 is 4-chlorophenyl, and Ar^2 is 3-cyanophenyl.

7. (currently amended) The compound according to Claim 1 selected from:

(1) 3-(1(S)(4-chlorobenzyl)-2(S)-((2-hydroxy-2-methyl-1-phenylpropyl)amino)propyl)-benzonitrile,

(2) methyl ((3-(4-chlorophenyl)-2(S)-(3-cyanophenyl)-1(S)-methyl-propyl)-amino)(phenyl)acetate,

(3) 3-(1(S)-1-(4-chlorobenzyl)-2(S)-((2-hydroxy-1-phenylethyl)amino)-propyl)benzonitrile,

(4) 3-(1(S)-(4-chlorobenzyl)-2(S)-((2-methoxy-1-phenylethyl)amino)-propyl)-benzonitrile,

(5) 3-(1(S)-(4-chlorobenzyl)-2(S)-((1-(4-chlorophenyl)-2-hydroxy-2-methyl-propyl)amino)propyl)benzonitrile,

(6) 3-(1(S)-(4-chlorobenzyl)-2(S)-((1-(3,5-difluorophenyl)-2-hydroxy-2-methyl-propyl)amino)propyl)-benzonitrile,

(7) 3-(1(S)-(4-chlorobenzyl)-2(S)-((1-(2-chlorophenyl)-2-hydroxy-2-methyl-propyl)amino)propyl)-benzonitrile,

(8) 3-(1(S)-(4-chlorobenzyl)-2(S)-((1-(3-chlorophenyl)-2-hydroxy-2-methyl-propyl)amino)propyl)-benzonitrile,

(9) 3-(1(S)-(4-chlorobenzyl)-2(S)-((1-(2,4-difluorophenyl)-2-hydroxy-2-methyl-propyl)amino)propyl)benzonitrile,

(10) 3-(1(S)-(4-chlorobenzyl)-2(S)-((1-(3,4-difluorophenyl)-2-hydroxy-2-methyl-propyl)amino)propyl)benzonitrile,

(11) 3-(1(S)-(4-chlorobenzyl)-2(S)-((1-(2-chloro-4-fluorophenyl)-2-hydroxy-2-methyl-propyl)amino)propyl)benzonitrile,

(12) 3-(1(S)-(4-chlorobenzyl)-2(S)-((1-(2-fluoro-4-chlorophenyl)-2-hydroxy-2-methyl-propyl)amino)propyl)benzonitrile,

(13) 3-(1(S)-(4-chlorobenzyl)-2(S)-((1-(4-fluorophenyl)-2-hydroxy-2-methyl-propyl)amino)propyl)benzonitrile,

(14) 3-(1(S)-(4-chlorobenzyl)-2(S)-(((1-hydroxycyclobutyl)-(3,5-difluorophenyl)methyl)amino)propyl)benzonitrile,

(15) 3-(1(S)-(4-chlorobenzyl)-2(S)-(((1-hydroxycyclohexyl)-(3,5-difluorophenyl)methyl)amino)propyl)benzonitrile,

(16) 3-(1(S)-(4-chlorobenzyl)-2(S)-((1-(3,5-difluorophenyl)-2-hydroxy-2-ethyl-butyl)amino)propyl)benzonitrile,

(17) 3-(1(S)-(4-chlorobenzyl)-2(S)-((1-(3,5-difluorophenyl)-2-hydroxy-2-methoxymethyl-propyl)amino)propyl)benzonitrile,

(18) 3-(1(S)-(4-chlorobenzyl)-2(S)-((1-(3,5-difluorophenyl)-2-hydroxy-propyl)amino)propyl)-benzonitrile,

(19) 3-(1(S)-(4-chlorobenzyl)-2(S)-((1-phenyl-3-hydroxy-2,2-dimethylpropyl)amino)propyl) benzonitrile,

(20) 3-(1(S)-(4-chlorobenzyl)-2(S)-((1-phenyl)-2-acetylamino-propyl)amino)propyl)benzonitrile,

(21) 3-(1(S)-(4-chlorobenzyl)-2(S)-((1-phenyl-2-t-butyloxycarbonyl-aminoethyl)-amino)propyl)benzonitrile,
(22) 3-(1(S)-(4-chlorobenzyl)-2(S)-((1-phenyl-2-aminoethyl)amino)-propyl)benzonitrile,
(23) 3-(1(S)-(4-chlorobenzyl)-2(S)-((1-phenyl-2-cyano-ethyl)amino)propyl)benzonitrile,
(24) 3-(1(S)-(4-chlorobenzyl)-2(S)-((1-phenyl-2-cyano-2-methylpropyl)-amino)propyl)benzonitrile,
(25) 3-(1(S)-(4-chlorobenzyl)-2(S)-((1-(3,5-difluorophenyl)-2-cyano-2-methylpropyl)amino)propyl) benzonitrile,
(26) 3-(1(S)-(4-chlorobenzyl)-2(S)-((1-phenyl-2-methane-sulfonylethyl)amino)propyl)benzonitrile,
and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

8. (currently amended) The compound according to Claim 1 selected from:
(1) 3-(1(S)-(4-chlorobenzyl)-2(S)-((1-phenyl-2-(1H-pyrazol-1-yl)ethyl) amino)propyl)benzonitrile,
(2) 3-(1(S)-(4-chlorobenzyl)-2(S)-((2-methyl-1-phenyl-2-(1H-pyrazol-1-yl)propyl) amino)propyl)benzonitrile,
(3) 3-(1(S)-(4-chlorobenzyl)-2(S)-((1-phenyl-2-(1H-1,2,4-triazol-1-yl)ethyl) amino)propyl)benzonitrile,
(4) 3-(1(S)-(4-chlorobenzyl)-2(S)-((2-(2-oxopyridin-1(2H)-yl-1-phenyl-ethyl) amino)propyl)benzonitrile,
(5) 3-(1(S)-(4-chlorobenzyl)-2(S)-((1-biphenyl-4-yl-2-cyanoethylamino)-propyl)benzonitrile (diastereomer A),
(6) 3-(1(S)-(4-chlorobenzyl)-2(S)-((1-biphenyl-4-yl-2-cyano-2-methyl-propyl)amino)propyl) benzonitrile (diastereomer A),
(7) 3-(1(S)-(4-chlorobenzyl)-2(S)-((1-(3-bromophenyl)-2-cyanoethyl) amino)propyl)benzonitrile,
(8) 3-(1(S)-(4-chlorobenzyl)-2(S)-((1-(4-chlorophenyl)-2-cyanoethyl) amino)propyl)benzonitrile,
(9) 3-(1(S)-(4-chlorobenzyl)-2(S)-((1-(4-fluorophenyl)-2-cyanoethyl) amino)propyl)benzonitrile,
(10) 3-(1(S)-(4-chlorobenzyl)-2(S)-((1-(3-chlorophenyl)-2-cyanoethyl) amino)propyl)benzonitrile,
(11) 3-(1(S)-(4-chlorobenzyl)-2(S)-((1-(3-trifluoromethylphenyl)-2-cyano-ethyl)amino)propyl)benzonitrile,
(12) 3-(1(S)-(4-chlorobenzyl)-2(S)-((1-(4-trifluoromethylphenyl)-2-cyano-ethyl)amino)propyl)benzonitrile,

(13) 3-(1(S)-(4-chlorobenzyl)-2(S)-((1-(4-methylphenyl)-2-cyanoethyl)-amino)propyl)benzonitrile,

(14) 3-(1(S)-(4-chlorobenzyl)-2(S)-((1-(4-methoxycarbonylphenyl)-2-cyano-ethyl)amino)propyl) benzonitrile,

(15) 3-(1(S)-(4-chlorobenzyl)-2(S)-((1-(3-trifluoromethoxyphenyl)-2-cyano-ethyl)amino)propyl) benzonitrile,

(16) 3-(1(S)-(4-chlorobenzyl)-2(S)-((1-(3-methylphenyl)-2-cyanoethyl)-amino)propyl)benzonitrile,

(17) 3-(1(S)-(4-chlorobenzyl)-2(S)-((1-(2-chlorophenyl)-2-cyanoethyl)-amino)propyl)benzonitrile (diastereomer A),

(18) 3-(1(S)-(4-chlorobenzyl)-2(S)-((1-(3,4-dichlorophenyl)-2-cyanoethyl) amino)propyl)benzonitrile,

(19) 3-(1(S)-(4-chlorobenzyl)-2(S)-((1-(3-cyanophenyl)-2-cyanoethyl)-amino) propyl)benzonitrile,

(20) 3-(1(S)-(4-chlorobenzyl)-2(S)-((1-(3-cyanophenyl)-2-cyano-2-methyl-propyl)amino) propyl)benzonitrile,

~~(21) 3-(1(S)-(4-chlorobenzyl)-2(S)-((1-cyclohexyl-2-cyanoethyl)amino)-propyl)benzonitrile,~~

(21) ~~(22)~~ 3-(1(S)-(4-chlorobenzyl)-2(S)-((1-(4-methylthiophenyl)-2-cyano-ethyl)amino)propyl)benzonitrile,

(22) ~~(23)~~ 3-(1(S)-(4-chlorobenzyl)-2(S)-((1-(4-cyanophenyl)-2-cyanoethyl)-amino)propyl)benzonitrile (diastereomer A),

(23) ~~(24)~~ 3-(1(S)-(4-chlorobenzyl)-2(S)-((1-(4-methoxyphenyl)-2-cyanoethyl)-amino)propyl)benzonitrile (diastereomer A),

(24) ~~(25)~~ 3-(1(S)-(4-chlorobenzyl)-2(S)-((1-(3-methylthiophenyl)-2-cyano-ethyl)amino)propyl)benzonitrile,

(25) ~~(26)~~ 3-(1(S)-(4-chlorobenzyl)-2(S)-((1-biphenyl-3-yl-2-cyanoethyl)-amino)propyl)benzonitrile,

(26) ~~(27)~~ 3-(1(S)-(4-chlorobenzyl)-2(S)-((1-(4-dimethylaminocarbonylphenyl)-2-cyanoethyl)amino)propyl) benzonitrile (diastereomer A),

(27) ~~(28)~~ 3-(1(S)-(4-chlorobenzyl)-2(S)-((1-(4-dimethylaminocarbonylphenyl)-2-cyano-2-methylpropyl)amino)propyl)benzonitrile (diastereomer A),

(28) ~~(29)~~ 3-(1(S)-(4-chlorobenzyl)-2(S)-((1-(4-(1H-pyrrol-1-yl)phenyl)-2-cyano-2-methylpropyl)amino)propyl) benzonitrile (diastereomer A),

(29) ~~(30)~~ 3-(1(S)-(4-chlorobenzyl)-2(S)-((1-(3-(1H-pyrazol-1-yl)phenyl)-2-cyano-2-methylpropyl)amino)propyl) benzonitrile,

(30) ~~(31)~~ 3-(1(S)-(4-chlorobenzyl)-2(S)-((1-(4-(1H-imidazol-1-yl)phenyl)-2-cyano-2-methylpropyl)amino)propyl) benzonitrile (diastereomer A),
(31) ~~(32)~~ 3-(1(S)-(4-chlorobenzyl)-2(S)-((1-(4-chlorophenyl)-2-cyano-2-methylpropyl)amino)propyl) benzonitrile,
(32) ~~(33)~~ 3-(1(S)-(4-chlorobenzyl)-2(S)-((1-(4-fluorophenyl)-2-cyano-2-methylpropyl)amino)propyl) benzonitrile (diastereomer A),
(33) ~~(34)~~ 3-(1(S)-(4-chlorobenzyl)-2(S)-((1-(3-chlorophenyl)-2-cyano-2-methylpropyl)amino)propyl) benzonitrile (diastereomer A),
(34) ~~(35)~~ 3-(1(S)-(4-chlorobenzyl)-2(S)-((1-(3-trifluoromethylphenyl)-2-cyano-2-methylpropyl)amino)propyl) benzonitrile (diastereomer A),
(35) ~~(36)~~ 3-(1(S)-(4-chlorobenzyl)-2(S)-((1-(4-trifluoromethylphenyl)-2-cyano-2-methylpropyl)amino)propyl) benzonitrile (diastereomer A),
(36) ~~(37)~~ 3-(1(S)-(4-chlorobenzyl)-2(S)-((1-(4-methylphenyl)-2-cyano-2-methylpropyl)amino)propyl) benzonitrile (diastereomer A),
(37) ~~(38)~~ 3-(1(S)-(4-chlorobenzyl)-2(S)-((1-(4-methoxycarbonylphenyl)-2-cyano-2-methylpropyl)amino)propyl) benzonitrile (diastereomer A),
(38) ~~(39)~~ 3-(1(S)-(4-chlorobenzyl)-2(S)-((1-(4-trifluoromethoxyphenyl)-2-cyano-2-methylpropyl)amino)propyl) benzonitrile (diastereomer A),
(39) ~~(40)~~ 3-(1(S)-(4-chlorobenzyl)-2(S)-((1-(3-methylphenyl)-2-cyano-2-methylpropyl)amino)propyl) benzonitrile (diastereomer A),
(40) ~~(41)~~ 3-(1(S)-(4-chlorobenzyl)-2(S)-((1-(4-cyanophenyl)-2-cyano-2-methylpropyl)amino)propyl) benzonitrile (diastereomer A),
(41) ~~(42)~~ 3-(1(S)-(4-chlorobenzyl)-2(S)-((1-(3,4-dichlorophenyl)-2-cyano-2-methylpropyl)amino)propyl) benzonitrile (diastereomer A),
(42) ~~(43)~~ 3-(1(S)-(4-chlorobenzyl)-2(S)-((1-(2-chlorophenyl)-2-cyano-2-methylpropyl)amino)propyl) benzonitrile (diastereomer A),
(43) ~~(44)~~ 3-(1(S)-(4-chlorobenzyl)-2(S)-((1-(4-methylthiophenyl)-2-cyano-2-methylpropyl)amino)propyl) benzonitrile (diastereomer A),
(44) ~~(45)~~ 3-(1(S)-(4-chlorobenzyl)-2(S)-((1-(4-methoxyphenyl)-2-cyano-2-methylpropyl)amino)propyl) benzonitrile (diastereomer A),
(45) ~~(46)~~ 3-(1(S)-(4-chlorobenzyl)-2(S)-((1-(3-methylthiophenyl)-2-cyano-2-methylpropyl)amino)propyl) benzonitrile (diastereomer A),
(46) ~~(47)~~ 3-(1(S)-(4-chlorobenzyl)-2(S)-((1-(3-phenylphenyl)-2-cyano-2-methylpropyl)amino)propyl) benzonitrile (diastereomer A),
(47) ~~(48)~~ 3-(1(S)-(4-chlorobenzyl)-2(S)-((1-(4-bromophenyl)-2-cyano-2-methylpropyl)amino)propyl) benzonitrile (diastereomer A),

~~(49) 3-(1(S)-(4-chlorobenzyl)-2(S)-((1-cyclohexyl-2-cyano-2-methylpropyl)-amino)propyl) benzonitrile (diastereomer A),~~

(48) ~~(50)~~ 3-(1(S)-(4-chlorobenzyl)-2(S)-((1-(4-(1H-pyrazol-3-yl)phenyl)-2-cyano-2-methylpropyl)amino)propyl) benzonitrile (diastereomer A),

(49) ~~(51)~~ 3-(1(S)-(4-chlorobenzyl)-2(S)-((1-(4-pyridin-4-yl-phenyl)-2-cyano-2-methylpropyl)amino) propyl) benzonitrile (diastereomer A),

(50) ~~(52)~~ 3-(1(S)-(4-chlorobenzyl)-2(S)-((1-(4-pyridin-3-yl-phenyl)-2-cyano-2-methylpropyl)amino) propyl) benzonitrile (diastereomer A),

(51) ~~(53)~~ 3-(1(S)-(4-chlorobenzyl)-2(S)-((1-(4'-cyanobiphen-4-yl)-2-cyano-2-methylpropyl)amino)propyl) benzonitrile (diastereomer A),

(52) ~~(54)~~ 3-(1(S)-(4-chlorobenzyl)-2(S)-((1-(4-pyrimidin-5-yl-phenyl)-2-cyano-2-methylpropyl)amino)propyl) benzonitrile (diastereomer A),

(53) ~~(55)~~ 3-(1(S)-(4-chlorobenzyl)-2(S)-((1-(4-(2-fluoropyridin-4-yl)-phenyl)-2-cyano-2-methylpropyl)amino) propyl)benzonitrile (diastereomer A),

(54) ~~(56)~~ 3-(1(S)-(4-chlorobenzyl)-2(S)-((1-(4'-cyanobiphen-3-yl)-2-cyano-2-methylpropyl)amino)propyl) benzonitrile (diastereomer A),

(55) ~~(57)~~ 3-(1(S)-(4-chlorobenzyl)-2(S)-((1-(3-pyridin-3-yl-phenyl)-2-cyano-2-methylpropyl)amino)propyl) benzonitrile (diastereomer A),

(56) ~~(58)~~ 3-(1(S)-(4-chlorobenzyl)-2(S)-((1-(3-pyrimidin-5-yl-phenyl)-2-cyano-2-methylpropyl)amino)propyl) benzonitrile (diastereomer A),

(57) ~~(59)~~ 3-(1(S)-(4-chlorobenzyl)-2(S)-((1-(3-pyridin-4-yl-phenyl)-2-cyano-2-methylpropyl)amino)propyl) benzonitrile (diastereomer A),

(58) ~~(60)~~ 3-(1(S)-(4-chlorobenzyl)-2(S)-((1-(3-(1H-pyrazol-3-yl)-phenyl)-2-cyano-2-methylpropyl)amino) propyl)benzonitrile (diastereomer A),

(59) ~~(61)~~ 3-(1(S)-(4-chlorobenzyl)-2(S)-((1-(3'-cyanobiphen-3-yl)-2-cyano-2-methylpropyl)amino) propyl) benzonitrile (diastereomer A),

(60) ~~(62)~~ 3-(1(S)-(4-chlorobenzyl)-2(S)-((1-(4-methanesulfonylphenyl)-2-cyano-2-methylpropyl)amino) propyl)benzonitrile (diastereomer A),

(61) ~~(63)~~ 3-(1(S)-(4-chlorobenzyl)-2(S)-((1-(4-methanesulfinylphenyl)-2-cyano-2-methylpropyl)amino) propyl)benzonitrile (diastereomer A),

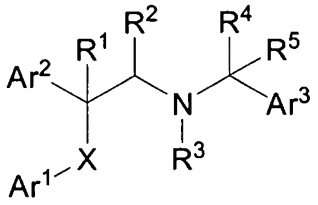
(62) ~~(64)~~ 3-(1(S)-(4-chlorobenzyl)-2(S)-((1-(3-methanesulfonylphenyl)-2-cyano-2-methylpropyl)amino) propyl)benzonitrile (diastereomer A),

(63) ~~(65)~~ 3-(1(S)-(4-chlorobenzyl)-2(S)-((1-(3-methanesulfinylphenyl)-2-cyano-2-methylpropyl)amino) propyl)benzonitrile (diastereomer A),

(64) ~~(66)~~ 3-(1(S)-(4-chlorobenzyl)-2(S)-((1-(4-(1H-1,2,4-triazol-1-yl)phenyl)-2-cyano-2-methylpropyl) amino)propyl) benzonitrile (diastereomer A),

(65) ~~(67)~~ 3-(1(S)-(4-chlorobenzyl)-2(S)-((1-(4-(1H-1,2,5-triazol-1-yl)phenyl)-2-cyano-2-methylpropyl)amino) propyl)benzonitrile (diastereomer A),
(66) ~~(68)~~ 3-(1(S)-(4-chlorobenzyl)-2(S)-((1-(4-(1H-1,2,3-triazol-1-yl)phenyl)-2-cyano-2-methylpropyl)amino)propyl)benzonitrile (diastereomer A),
(67) ~~(69)~~ 3-(1(S)-(4-chlorobenzyl)-2(S)-((1-(3-(1H-1,2,4-triazol-1-yl)phenyl)-2-cyano-2-methylpropyl)amino) propyl)benzonitrile (diastereomer A),
(68) ~~(70)~~ 3-(1(S)-(4-chlorobenzyl)-2(S)-((1-(3-(1H-1,2,5-triazol-1-yl)phenyl)-2-cyano-2-methylpropyl)amino) propyl)benzonitrile (diastereomer A),
(69) ~~(71)~~ 3-(1(S)-(4-chlorobenzyl)-2(S)-((1-(3-(1H-1,2,3-triazol-1-yl)phenyl)-2-cyano-2-methylpropyl)amino) propyl)benzonitrile (diastereomer A),
(70) ~~(72)~~ 3-(1(S)-(4-chlorobenzyl)-2(S)-((1-(4-(1H-pyrazol-1-yl)phenyl)-2-cyano-2-methylpropyl)amino) propyl)benzonitrile (diastereomer A),
(71) ~~(73)~~ 3-(1(S)-(4-chlorobenzyl)-2(S)-((1-(4-(1H-pyrazol-3-ylamino)phenyl)-2-cyano-2-methylpropyl)amino)propyl) benzonitrile (diastereomer A),
(72) ~~(74)~~ 3-(1(S)-(4-chlorobenzyl)-2(S)-((1-(4-(1H-1,2,4-triazol-3-ylamino)phenyl)-2-cyano-2-methylpropyl)amino) propyl)benzonitrile (diastereomer A),
(73) ~~(75)~~ 3-(1(S)-(4-chlorobenzyl)-2(S)-((1-(4-(3-amino-1H-1,2,4-triazol-1-yl)phenyl)-2-cyano-2-methylpropyl)amino) propyl)benzonitrile (diastereomer A),
(74) ~~(76)~~ 3-(1(S)-(4-chlorobenzyl)-2(S)-((1-(3-(1H-pyrazol-3-ylamino)phenyl)-2-cyano-2-methylpropyl)amino) propyl)benzonitrile (diastereomer A),
(75) ~~(77)~~ 3-(1(S)-(4-chlorobenzyl)-2(S)-((1-(3-(1H-1,2,4-triazol-3-ylamino)phenyl)-2-cyano-2-methylpropyl)amino) propyl)benzonitrile (diastereomer A),
(76) ~~(78)~~ 3-(1(S)-(4-chlorobenzyl)-2(S)-((1-(3-(pyridine-2-ylamino)phenyl)-2-cyano-2-methylpropyl)amino) propyl)benzonitrile (diastereomer A),
and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

9. (currently amended) A compound of structural formula I:



(I)

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein:
R^1 is ~~selected from:~~

~~(1)~~ hydrogen~~,~~

~~(2) C_{1-4}alkyl, unsubstituted or substituted with 1, 2 or 3 R^e substituents,~~

~~(3) halogen, and~~

(4) ~~-OR^d~~;

R^2 is -CH_3, ~~selected from:~~

~~(1) hydrogen,~~

~~(2) C_{1-4}alkyl, and~~

~~(3) aryl,~~

wherein each ~~alkyl and aryl~~ -CH_3 moiety is unsubstituted or substituted with 1, 2 or 3 R^e substituents;

R^3 is ~~selected from:~~

~~(1)~~ hydrogen~~, and~~

(2) ~~C_{1-4}alkyl, unsubstituted or substituted with 1, 2 or 3 R^e substituents~~;

R^4 is selected from:

(1) hydrogen,

(2) C_{1-10}alkyl,

(3) C_{2-10}alkenyl,

(4) C_{2-10}alkynyl,

(5) C_{1-10}alkyloxycarbonyl-, and

(6) C_{3-10}cycloalkyl,

wherein each alkyl, alkenyl, and alkynyl moiety is unsubstituted or substituted with one to four substituents independently selected from R^a and each cycloalkyl moeity is unsubstituted or substituted with one, two or three substituents independently selected from R^b;

R^5 is ~~selected from:~~

~~(1)~~ hydrogen~~, and~~

(2) ~~C_{1-4}alkyl, unsubstituted or substituted with 1, 2 or 3 R^e substituents~~;

Ar^1 is phenyl, ~~selected from:~~

~~(1) C_{1-10}alkyl,~~

~~(2) C_{2-10}alkenyl,~~

~~(3) C_{2-10}alkynyl,~~

~~(4) C_{3-10}cycloalkyl,~~

~~(5) cycloheteroalkyl,~~

~~(6) aryl, and~~

(7) ~~heteroaryl,~~

wherein each ~~alkyl, alkenyl, and alkynyl moiety is unsubstituted or substituted with one to three substituents independently selected from R^a,~~

~~each aryl and heteroaryl~~ phenyl moiety is unsubstituted or substituted with one to four substituents independently selected from R^b~~,and~~

~~each cycloalkyl and cycloheteroalkyl moiety is unsubstituted or substituted with one to four substituents independently selected from R^b and oxo~~;

Ar^2 is phenyl, ~~selected from:~~

~~(1) $-OR^d$,~~

~~(2) $-CO_2R^d$,~~

~~(3) C_{3-10}cycloalkyl,~~

~~(4) cycloheteroalkyl,~~

~~(5) aryl, and~~

~~(6) heteroaryl,~~

wherein each ~~cycloalkyl, cycloheteroalkyl moiety is unsubstituted or substituted with one to four substituents independently selected from R^b and oxo; and each aryl and heteroaryl~~ phenyl moiety is unsubstituted or substituted with one to four substituents independently selected from R^b;

Ar^3 is phenyl, ~~selected from:~~

~~(1) aryl, and~~

~~(2) heteroaryl,~~

wherein each ~~aryl and heteroaryl~~ phenyl moiety is unsubstituted or substituted with one to four substituents independently selected from R^b;

X is $-CH_2-$; ~~selected from:~~

~~(1) a bond,~~

~~(2) C_{1-4}alkyl,~~

~~(3) oxygen,~~

~~(4) sulfur, and~~

~~(5) $-NR^e-$,~~

~~provided that when X is oxygen, sulfur, or $-NR^e-$, then R^1 is hydrogen or C_{1-4}alkyl and Ar^2 is not $-OR^d$;~~

each R^a is independently selected from:

(1) $-OR^d$,

(2) $-NR^cS(O)_mR^d$,

(3) halogen,

(4) $-SR^d$,

(5) $-S(O)_mR^d$,

(6) $-S(O)_mNR^cR^d$,

(7) $-NR^cR^d$,

(8) $-C(O)R^d$,

(9) $-CO_2R^d$,

(10) -CN,

(11) -C(O)NR^{c}R^d,
(12) -NR^{c}C(O)R^d,
(13) -NR^{c}C(O)OR^d,
(14) -NR^{c}C(O)NR^{c}R^d,
(15) -CF_3,
(16) -OCF_3, and
(17) cycloheteroalkyl;

each R^b is independently selected from:

(1) R^a,
(2) C_{1-10}alkyl,
(3) aryl,
(4) arylC_{1-4}alkyl,
(5) heteroaryl, and
(6) heteroarylC_{1-4}alkyl;

R^c and R^d are independently selected from:

(1) hydrogen,
(2) C_{1-10}alkyl,
(3) C_{2-10} alkenyl,
(4) cycloalkyl,
(5) cycloalkyl-C_{1-10}alkyl-,
(6) cycloheteroalkyl,
(7) cycloheteroalkyl-C_{1-10} alkyl-,
(8) aryl,
(9) heteroaryl,
(10) aryl-C_{1-10}alkyl-, and
(11) heteroaryl-C_{1-10}alkyl-, or

R^c and R^d together with the atom(s) to which they are attached form a heterocyclic ring of 4 to 7 members containing 0-2 additional heteroatoms independently selected from oxygen, sulfur and N-Rg,

each R^c and R^d are unsubstituted or substituted with one to three substituents selected from R^h;

R^e is selected from:

(1) hydroxy,
(2) methoxy-,
(3) trifluoromethoxy-,
(4) methylcarbonyloxy-,
(5) halogen, and

(6) cyano;

each Rg is independently selected from

(1) C_{1-10}alkyl, and

(2) -C(O)R^i;

each R^h is independently selected from:

(1) halogen,

(2) C_{1-10}alkyl,

(3) -O-C_{1-4}alkyl,

(4) -S-C_{1-4}alkyl,

(5) -CN,

(6) $-NO_2$,

(7) $-CF_3$, and

(8) $-OCF_3$;

each R^i is independently selected from:

(1) hydrogen,

(2) C_{1-10}alkyl,

(3) C_{2-10} alkenyl,

(4) cycloalkyl,

(5) cycloalkyl-C_{1-10}alkyl-,

(6) cycloheteroalkyl,

(7) cycloheteroalkyl-C_{1-10} alkyl-,

(8) aryl,

(9) heteroaryl,

(10) aryl-C_{1-10}alkyl-, and

(11) heteroaryl-C_{1-10}alkyl-; and

m is selected from 1 and 2.

10. (original) A composition comprising a compound according to Claim 1 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

Claims 11-19 (cancelled)

Claim 20. (previously presented) A method for preventing obesity in a person at risk therefore comprising administration to the person of about 0.001 mg/kg to about 100 mg/kg of a compound according to Claim 1.

Claim 21. (new) A method of treating obesity in a human patient in need of such treatment comprising administration of a non-toxic, therapeutically effective amount of a compound according to Claim 1.